

REMARKS

Claims 12-15 and 51-53 are currently pending in this application. Applicants note, with appreciation, the indication of allowability with respect to claim 14, directed to hemophilia, as well as the change in status of claim 51.

In the Office Action of July 27, 2007, claims 1, 9, 12-13, 15-18, 22, 50-53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for failing to enable one skilled in the art to practice the claimed invention. This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner states that the description of the disorders being treated as “vasculature-associated disorders” is, in effect, overly broad and not supported by the specification. In addition, the Examiner has also questioned whether there is adequate support in the specification to enable “preventing” as disorder.

In response, claim 12 has now been amended to specify that the disorder comprises hemophilia or von Willebrand’s disease. Moreover, claims 13 and 14 have been amended to cover hemophilia A and hemophilia B, respectively. Antecedent support for the claim amendments can be found in the specification at page 9, lines 18-27, which describes disorders associated with hypocoagulation, such as hemophilia (decreased or inability to form blood clots), and von Willebrand’s disease (a deficiency in von Willebrand clotting factor). Accordingly, applicant believes that the amended claims are now in full compliance with all applicable provisions of 35 U.S.C. 112.

Claims 1, 9, 12, 15-18 and 22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by McEver (U.S. Patent No. 5,378,464). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner states that McEver teaches the modulation of hemostatic reactions and inflammatory conditions, including tumors and anticoagulant effects. Notwithstanding, there is no disclosure in the reference that inducers of P-selectin activity can be used to treat hypocoagulation disorders such as hemophilia and von Willebrand’s disease. Accordingly, McEver cannot anticipate the claims as presently amended.

Claims 1, 9, 12, 15-18, 22 and 51-53 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Cochrum et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,510,102) in view of McEver and Larsen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,277,975). This ground of rejection is also traversed.

Cochrum et al. relates to hemostatic adhesive agents, and as acknowledged by the Examiner, the reference does not teach or suggest the use of P-selectin in such agents. The Examiner has cited McEver for supplying the motivation to add P-selectin to the agents of Cochrum et al. Larsen et al. has been cited as disclosing the use of fusion proteins or immunoglobulin fusion proteins to administer molecules of interest.

It is applicant's position that one skilled in the art would not have had a reasonable expectation of success in deriving the claimed method from the cited references since there is no disclosure of the treatment of those diseases presently claimed in any of the cited references, and furthermore, there is no basis for modifying the references to include the treatment of such diseases. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention would not have been prima facie obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

In view of the aforementioned facts and reasons, the present application is now believed to overcome the remaining rejections, and to be in proper condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the pending claims of this application are therefore respectfully solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below to facilitate the continued prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 1, 2007

By: /William G. Gosz/
William G. Gosz
Reg. No. 27,787

Customer No. 21127
Rissman Jobsc Hendricks & Oliverio, LLP
One State Street
Boston, MA 02109
617-367-4600